

Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /120 W

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R 171550Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2623

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0334

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MILI AO PO

SUBJECT: RUMORS OF A PHANTOM ARMY

1. MULTIPLE SOURCES CLOSE TO PORTUGUESE MILITARY CLAIM THAT OPPORTUNITY FOR FUTURE MERCENARY SERVICE IN ANGOLA IS BEING DIRECTED AT PORTUGUESE ARMY OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS HERE. OFFICERS WOULD RECEIVE DOUBLE PRESENT PAY/ALLOWANCES, SERGEANTS TRIPLE PRESENT COMPENSATION WITH PAYMENTS MADE IN ANY MAJOR CURRENCY. ONE SOURCE CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN LIST SHOWING OFFICERS NAMES, PRESENT PAY AND POTENTIAL MERCENARY PAY.

2. INDUSTRIALIST ANTONIO CHAMPAULIMAUD IS THE RUMORED PRINCIPAL BACKER OF THIS FUTURE WHITE-OFFICERED ANGOLAN ARMY IN ORDER PROTECT HIS ECONOMIC INTERESTS IF AND WHEN PORTUGUESE ARMY LEAVES.

3. ALTHOUGH INFO COMES FROM SEVERAL SOURCES IT IS UNCORROBORATED BY ANYTHING CONCRETE. HOWEVER, POST REPORTING IT BECAUSE ONE OF THE SOURCES HAS EXCELLENT TRACK RECORD. THAT SOURCE, AN ARMY OFFICER, TOLD US IN JANUARY THAT 1974 WOULD SEE "FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE" IN PORTUGAL; TEN DAYS BEFORE COUP HE PREDICTED AN EFFORT TO OVERTHROW THE LISBON REGIME BY YOUNG OFFICERS "WITHIN TWO WEEKS."

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BRIGGS

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